

Post 6-11-69

16 Black Panthers Indicted in Chicago On Kidnaping and Torture Charges

CHICAGO, June 10 (AP)—Sixteen members of the Black Panther Party were indicted today on charges of kidnaping and torturing a man and woman.

Six of the Panthers, including Fred A. Hampton, deputy chairman of the Illinois party, were in custody. Warrants were issued for the arrest of 10 others.

The 16 are charged with kidnaping a Negro couple in Summit, a southwestern suburb of Chicago. The victims testified before the May grand jury which was held over to hear the case. The victims' identities were not revealed.

Cook County state's attorney officials said that Panther leaders abducted the man and wife April 27.

Officials speculated that Panther leaders believed the couple had taken a riot gun missing from Panther headquarters. The man was beaten

and left in Summit. The woman was burned with a propane torch and taken to a South Side apartment where she escaped by leaping from a third floor balcony.

Charges included in the indictments are conspiracy to commit kidnaping, kidnaping, aggravated kidnaping, burglary, aggravated battery and unlawful use of a weapon.

Two Panthers Charged In Colo. as Fugitives

DENVER, June 10 (UPI)—Two men wanted in Connecticut in connection with the torture-slaying of a Black Panther were formally charged as fugitives Monday in Denver District Court.

Landon R. Williams, 23, and Rory B. Hithe, 18, were charged with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. Both were described by officers as "enforcers by the Black

Panther Party from Oakland."

The have been charged in Connecticut, along with 10 others, with kidnaping Alexander Rackley from New York City. Rackley was then taken to New Haven, Conn., for a "trial" by a Black Panther court, tortured and executed, New Haven police said.

New Haven Police Pick Up Panther

SALT LAKE CITY, June 10 (AP)—A man accused in the torture-slaying of a Black Panther member was taken from Salt Lake City today for return to Hew Haven, Conn., on charges of murder and kidnaping.

Lonnie McLucas, 23, was picked up by two sergeants from the New Haven Police Dept. Sheriff's officers said the party flew to Denver, where two other men were arrested in the case Thursday.